

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Shepard Building 255 Westminster Street Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Elliot Krieger, Communications – (401) 222-8471 Embargo until: Immediate release – September 29, 2009

## **Regents to Hold October Board Meeting in Newport**

Continuing its plan to hold monthly Board meetings in community settings, the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education will hold its October meeting on Thursday (Oct. 1), at 4 p.m., at the Dr. M.H. Sullivan School, 35 Dexter St., Newport.

"We were pleased by the large community turnout at our meetings in Providence and Central Falls," said Robert G. Flanders, Jr., Esq., Chairman of the Board. "It was very helpful for the Regents to hear from members of the community, including parents, teachers, and students. We look forward this week to hearing from many residents of Newport."

"As we prepare our action agenda for transforming Rhode Island education, the Regents and I will reach out to those who know our students best: parents, educators, and the students themselves," said Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. "We want to hear about successes as well as about barriers to improvement, and we want community members to join with us as we work together to advance learning for all."

In order to encourage attendance at the meeting on Thursday, the Regents have worked with several community groups, including the Florence Gray Center and Young Voices of Newport. The Regents have worked with the Newport School Department and the Paul W. Crowley Metropolitan Career & Technical Center – East Bay to notify community members, educators, and students about this meeting.

The Regents encourage members of the public and the media to attend the Board meeting on Thursday. Agenda items include a resolution regarding the Rhode Island School for the Deaf and a report on the NECAP science scores.

The agenda is posted on the RIDE Web site: http://www.ride.ri.gov/Regents/Docs/MeetingAgenda/2009/20091001\_regentsagenda.pdf